

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Fearless

Week of May 5, 2019

Week 3: Facing the Fear of Rejection (Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

2 Timothy 4:9-17

Review: Many of us struggle with the fear of rejection. We long to be wanted, liked, loved and included. The Apostle Paul struggled with this same issue. His letter from a gloomy Roman prison reveals how he overcame this fear. If we follow Paul's example, we too will thrive...even in our darkest hour.

Kicking it off: What are your plans for Mother's Day?

Discussion:

1. Reread the words Paul wrote in *2 Timothy 4:9-10*
"Do your best to come to me quickly, for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica."
What are the emotional ramifications of being abandoned by a friend?
2. In verse 9, Paul boldly asks for a visit from Timothy. Why are we hesitant to be as bold in the pursuit of establishing friendships?
3. Reread *2 Timothy 4:14-15*
"Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message."
Have you ever had an enemy intent on causing you harm? Are you willing to tell the group about it?
4. Reread Paul's request found in *2 Timothy 4:13*
"When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments."
It has been said that "*books make good friends*". Does reading really help with the ache of loneliness? If so, how?
5. Reread *2 Timothy 4:16*
"At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them."
Notice that Paul does not maintain bitterness toward those who had let him down. Why is it good for our souls to forgive those who have failed us?
6. Reread *2 Timothy 4:17*
"But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength."
Have you ever experienced the support of the Lord when it seemed everyone else was deserting you? If so, tell the group about it.

Wrapping It Up: Pray that you may build a strong friendship with the Lord and with others.

